



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/030,268	03/19/2002	Christian Kropf	H 4086 PCT/US	9035
55495	7590	04/06/2006	EXAMINER	
DANN DORFMAN HERRELL AND SKILLMAN A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION 1601 MARKET STREET SUITE 2400 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103-2307			GRAFFEO, MICHEL	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1614	
DATE MAILED: 04/06/2006				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/030,268	KROPF ET AL.	
	Examiner Michel Graffeo	Art Unit 1614	
-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --			
Period for Reply			
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). 			
Status			
1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>27 February 2006</u> .			
2a) <input type="checkbox"/> This action is FINAL . 2b) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This action is non-final.			
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.			
Disposition of Claims			
4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>16-21,28,31 and 32</u> is/are pending in the application.			
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.			
5) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.			
6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>16-21,28,31 and 32</u> is/are rejected.			
7) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.			
8) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.			
Application Papers			
9) <input type="checkbox"/> The specification is objected to by the Examiner.			
10) <input type="checkbox"/> The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) <input type="checkbox"/> accepted or b) <input type="checkbox"/> objected to by the Examiner.			
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).			
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).			
11) <input type="checkbox"/> The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.			
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119			
12) <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).			
a) <input type="checkbox"/> All b) <input type="checkbox"/> Some * c) <input type="checkbox"/> None of:			
1. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.			
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.			
3. <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).			
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.			
Attachment(s)			
1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)		4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____	
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)		5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)	
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>27 Feb 06</u> .		6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 27 February 2006 has been entered.

Status of Action

Applicant's arguments, see response, filed 27 February 2006, have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection of claims 16-21, 28 and 31-32 under 35 USC §103, has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made. Any rejection not specifically stated in this Office Action has been withdrawn.

Applicant has amended claim 16 and submitted a Declaration under C.F.R. §1.132 in the amendment filed 27 February 2006. Claims 16-21, 28 and 31-32 are pending and examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 16-21, 28 and 31-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over PCT/IB97/01634 to Rudin *et al.* in view of US Patent No. 4,933,173 to Bristow *et al.*

Rudin *et al.* teach a hydroxyapatite composite comprising finely divided rod like particles of hydroxyapatite having dimensions of 60nm (L) by 15nm (W) by 5nm (T) (see

page 2 paragraph 5) and a surfactant (see page 4 paragraph 4 and Example 5 which includes polyethylene glycol) which can be used to prepare toothpastes (see Abstract).

Rudin *et al.* do not teach the incorporation of a protein, protein hydrolyzate or protein hydrolyzate derivative into the composite.

Bristow et al. teach an oral preparation for example a toothpaste comprising hydroxyapatite and casein and explain that casein is an anti-caries agent (in current claims 16-21; see col 1 lines 13-16) and has a high degree of compatibility with hydroxyapatite, which is present in an amount of from 0.01% to 10% (in current claims 31-32; see col 1 lines 50-55).

One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine the above references and as combined teach the claimed invention as claimed. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine the above references because Bristow et al. teach that hydroxyapatite and casein are compatible and further that casein has anti-caries properties, both of which are reasons to add casein to a toothpaste and cause one of ordinary skill in the art to expect a better product. Thus, the claimed invention of the composition was within the ordinary skill in the art to make and use at the time it was made and was as a whole, *prima facie* obvious.

Response to Amendment - 35 USC § 103

The rejection of claims 16-21, 28 and 31-32 under 35 USC §103 has been withdrawn for the reasons stated in Applicant's remarks and Declaration.

Response to Declaration under C.F.R. §1.132

Applicant's Declaration filed 27 February 2006 have been fully considered but it is not persuasive. The Declaration does not teach a product that is unexpected in light of Bristow et al. Specifically, Bristow teaches that hydroxyapatite and casein are compatible and further that casein has beneficial properties when included in an oral care product such as a toothpaste. Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to combine both in a paste, which is considered to be described by the claim language "a microscopically heretogeneous aggregate".

Maintained Double Patenting

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 16-22, 28 and 30 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 8-10 and 13 of copending Application No. 09/868,379. This is a provisional double patenting rejection since the conflicting claims have not yet been patented.

Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the subject matter claimed in the instant application is fully disclosed in the referenced copending application and would be covered by any patent granted on that copending application since the referenced copending application and the instant application are claiming common subject matter, as follows in the table of comparison below:

Table of comparison between claims 16-22, 28 of the instant application and claims 8-10 and 13 of copending Application No. 09/868,379.

Claim Number (10/0302 68)	Claim limitations from '268	Limitations claimed in 09/868379 reference
16	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein derivatives.	Claim 8: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-50nm diameter particles and a water-soluble polymeric protective colloid adsorbed onto said particle which can be for example casein or gelatine. See also Claims 9, 10 and 13.
17	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of rod-like particles having a thickness of 2-50nm and a length of 10-150nm and a protein or protein derivatives. Since the particle is rod-like, it would be obvious to one skilled in the art that thickness is equal to diameter.	Claim 8: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of particles having a diameter of 10-50nm and length of 10 to 150nms and a water-soluble polymeric protective colloid adsorbed onto said particle which can be for example casein or gelatine. See also Claims 9, 10 and 13.
18	A calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a substance selected from collagen, gelatine, keratin casein etc.	Claim 8: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of particles having a diameter of 10-50nm and a water-soluble polymeric protective colloid adsorbed onto said particle which can be for example casein or gelatine. See also Claims 9, 10 and 13.

19	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a substance selected from gelatine, keratin casein etc.	Claim 8: A calcium salt in form of rod-like particles having a diameter of 10-50nm and a water-soluble polymeric protective colloid adsorbed onto said particle which can be for example casein or gelatine. See also Claims 9, 10 and 13.
20	A calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein derivatives wherein the salt is encapsulated with one or more surface modifiers.	Claim 8: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of particles having a diameter of 10-50nm and a water-soluble polymeric protective colloid adsorbed onto said particle. See also Claims 9, 10 and 13.
21	Hydroxylapatite or fluorapatite in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein derivatives.	Claim 8: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of particles having a diameter of 10-50nm and a water-soluble polymeric protective colloid adsorbed onto said particle, which can be a protein for example casein or gelatine. See also Claims 9, 10 and 13.
22	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein derivatives wherein the protein or its derivative comprise 0.1 to 60% of the composite material.	Claim 8: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of particles having a diameter of 10-50nm and a water-soluble polymeric protective colloid adsorbed onto said particle, which is present in an amount of at least 0.1% of the weight of the suspension. See also Claims 9, 10 and 13 to the extent that the amount of colloid is equal to the amount of protein or protein derivative in Claim 22 of the instant application.
28	A toothpaste comprising a phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein derivatives.	Claim 13: A toothpaste comprising a one or more calcium phosphate, hydroxylapatite, flourapatite or calcium fluoride wherein the salt particles have diameters from 5-50 nm and a water-soluble polymeric protective colloid adsorbed onto said particle wherein such colloid can be a protein such as casein or gelatine.
30	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein	Claim 8: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of particles having a diameter of 10-50nm and a water-soluble polymeric protective

	derivatives wherein the protein or its derivative comprise 0.5 to 10% of the composite material.	colloid adsorbed onto said particle, which is present in an amount of at least 0.1% of the weight of the suspension. See also Claims 9, 10 and 13 to the extent that the amount of colloid is equal to the amount of protein or protein derivative in Claim 22 of the instant application.
--	--	--

Claims 16-22, 28 and 30 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 1-8 of copending Application No. 10/465157. This is a provisional double patenting rejection since the conflicting claims have not yet been patented.

Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the subject matter claimed in the instant application is fully disclosed in the referenced copending application and would be covered by any patent granted on that copending application since the referenced copending application and the instant application are claiming common subject matter, as follows in the table of comparison below:

Table of comparison between claims 16-22, 28 of the instant application and claims 1-8 of copending Application No. 10/465157.

Claim Number (10/030268)	Claim limitations from '268	Limitations claimed in 10/465157 reference
16	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein	Claim 4: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt having a mean particle fineness of 10-300nm and a water-soluble or swellable support material which can be for example casein or gelatine.

	derivatives.	See also Claims 1-3 and 5-8 to the extent that the salt particles are finely divided and finely divided can to one skilled in the art include those particles with a 10-300nm fineness. Further the specification of this reference states on page 5 that "Those only slightly water-soluble calcium salts have proven particularly advantageous which have a mean particle fineness of 10-300 nm (nanometers)."
17	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of rod-like particles having a thickness of 2-50nm and a length of 10-150nm and a protein or protein derivatives.	Claim 4: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt having a mean particle fineness of 10-300nm and a water-soluble or swellable support material which can be for example casein or gelatine. Claim 5: A finely divided phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt and a protein which can be for example casein or gelatine. See also Claims 1-3 and 6-8.
18	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a substance selected from collagen, gelatine, keratin casein etc.	Claim 4: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt having a mean particle fineness of 10-300nm and a water-soluble or swellable support material which can be for example casein or gelatine. Claim 5: A finely divided phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt and a protein which can be for example casein or gelatine. See also Claims 6-8.
19	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a substance selected from gelatine, keratin casein etc.	Claim 4: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt having a mean particle fineness of 10-300nm and a water-soluble or swellable support material which can be for example casein or gelatine. Claim 5: A finely divided phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt and a protein which can be for example casein or gelatine. See also Claims 6-8.
20	A calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein derivatives wherein the salt is encapsulated with one or more surface modifiers.	Claim 4: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt having a mean particle fineness of 10-300nm and a water-soluble or swellable support material which can be for example casein or gelatine. Claim 5: A finely divided phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt and a protein which can be for example casein or gelatine.

		<p>See also Claims 1-3 and 6-8.</p> <p>This application does not claim surface modifiers, but surface modifiers can be emulsifiers, colloids and surfactants all of which are traditionally used in dental materials and excipients (See <i>Kirk-Othmer Encyclopedia of Chemical Technology</i> Copyright © 1993 by John Wiley & Sons, Inc. All rights reserved.</p> <p>DOI: 10.1002/0471238961.0405142016010405.a001 Article Online Posting Date: December 4, 2000.)</p>
21	Hydroxylapatite or fluorapatite in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein derivatives.	Claim 5: A finely divided phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt and a protein which can be for example casein or gelatine. See also Claims 1-4 and 6-8.
22	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein derivatives wherein the protein or its derivative comprise 0.1 to 60% of the composite material.	Claim 8: A finely divided phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt and a protein which can be for example casein or gelatine and further wherein the protein is present in an amount of 0.1 to 60%. See also Claims 1-7.
28	A toothpaste comprising a phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein derivatives.	Claim 4: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt having a mean particle fineness of 10-300nm and a water-soluble or swellable support material which can be for example casein or gelatine. See also Claims 1-3 and 5-8. This reference does not recite a toothpaste in any claim preamble but instead recites a dental adhesive for local remineralizing tooth treatment. It would be obvious to one skilled in the art to use the reference as a toothpaste since, as the applicant admits in its specification on page 1, "Phosphate salts of calcium have long been added to the formulations of tooth cleaning and dental care preparations both as abrasive components and for promoting the remineralizing of dental enamel." Thus it would be obvious to use the dental adhesive as a toothpaste and the dental adhesive is an obvious variation on a

		toothpaste.
30	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein derivatives wherein the protein or its derivative comprise 0.5 to 10% of the composite material.	Claim 8: A finely divided phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt and a protein which can be for example casein or gelatine and further wherein the protein is present in an amount of 0.1 to 60%. See also Claims 1-7.

Claims 16-22, 28 and 30 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 20-27 of copending Application No. 10/297,889. This is a provisional double patenting rejection since the conflicting claims have not yet been patented.

Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the subject matter claimed in the instant application is fully disclosed in the referenced copending application and would be covered by any patent granted on that copending application since the referenced copending application and the instant application are claiming common subject matter, as follows in the table of comparison below:

Table of comparison between claims 16-22, 28 of the instant application and claims 20-27 of copending Application No. 10/297,889.

Claim Number (10/030268)	Claim limitations from '268	Limitations claimed in 10/297,889 reference
16	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles	Claim 20: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt having an average particle diameter of from 5-300nm and a polyelectrolyte which can be a protein (see

	and a protein or protein derivatives.	Dictionary in AccessScience@McGraw-Hill). See also claims 21-27.
17	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of rod-like particles having a thickness of 2-50nm and a length of 10-150nm and a protein or protein derivatives.	Claim 20: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt having an average particle diameter of from 5-300nm and a polyelectrolyte which can be a protein (see Dictionary in AccessScience@McGraw-Hill). See also claims 21-27.
18	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a substance selected from collagen, gelatine, keratin casein etc.	Claim 20: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt having an average particle diameter of from 5-300nm and a polyelectrolyte which can be a protein (see Dictionary in AccessScience@McGraw-Hill). See also claims 21, 23-27.
19	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a substance selected from gelatine, keratin casein etc.	Claim 20: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt having an average particle diameter of from 5-300nm and a polyelectrolyte which can be a protein (see Dictionary in AccessScience@McGraw-Hill). See also claims 21, 23-27.
20	A calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein derivatives wherein the salt is encapsulated with one or more surface modifiers.	Claim 20: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt having an average particle diameter of from 5-300nm and a polyelectrolyte which can be a protein (see Dictionary in AccessScience@McGraw-Hill). See also claims 21-27. This application does not claim surface modifiers, but surface modifiers can be emulsifiers, colloids and surfactants all of which are traditionally used in dental materials and excipients (See <i>Kirk-Othmer Encyclopedia of Chemical Technology</i> Copyright © 1993 by John Wiley & Sons, Inc. All rights reserved. DOI: 10.1002/0471238961.0405142016010405.a001 Article Online Posting Date: December 4, 2000.)
21	Hydroxylapatite or fluorapatite in form of 10-	Claim 21: Hydroxyapatite and fluoroapatite having an average particle diameter of from 5-

	300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein derivatives.	300nm and a polyelectrolyte which can be a protein (see Dictionary in AccessScience@McGraw-Hill). See also claims 20, 22-27.
22	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein derivatives wherein the protein or its derivative comprise 0.1 to 60% of the composite material.	Claim 24: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt having an average particle diameter of from 5-300nm and a polyelectrolyte which can be a protein (see Dictionary in AccessScience@McGraw-Hill) wherein the polyelectrolyte/protein is 0.1 to 40%. Claim 25: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt having an average particle diameter of from 5-300nm and a polyelectrolyte which can be a protein (see Dictionary in AccessScience@McGraw-Hill) wherein the polyelectrolyte/protein is 2 to 50%. See also claims 22-23 and 26-27.
28	A toothpaste comprising a phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein derivatives.	Claim 20: A composition for treating tooth and/or bone, of which includes toothpaste, comprising a phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt having an average particle diameter of from 5-300nm and a polyelectrolyte which can be a protein (see Dictionary in AccessScience@McGraw-Hill). Claim 27: A paste comprising a phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt having an average particle diameter of from 5-300nm and a polyelectrolyte which can be a protein (see Dictionary in AccessScience@McGraw-Hill). See also claims 21-26.
30	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein derivatives wherein the protein or its derivative comprise 0.5 to 10% of the composite material.	Claim 24: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt having an average particle diameter of from 5-300nm and a polyelectrolyte which can be a protein (see Dictionary in AccessScience@McGraw-Hill) wherein the polyelectrolyte/protein is 0.1 to 40%. Claim 25: A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt having an average particle diameter of from 5-300nm and a polyelectrolyte which can be a protein (see Dictionary in AccessScience@McGraw-Hill) wherein the polyelectrolyte/protein is 2 to 50%. See also claims 22-23 and 26-27.

Claims 16-22, 28 and 30 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 20-27 of copending Application No. 10/297,842. This is a provisional double patenting rejection since the conflicting claims have not yet been patented.

Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the subject matter claimed in the instant application is fully disclosed in the referenced copending application and would be covered by any patent granted on that copending application since the referenced copending application and the instant application are claiming common subject matter, as follows in the table of comparison below:

Table of comparison between claims 16-22, 28 of the instant application and claims 20-27 of copending Application No. 10/297,842.

Claim Number (10/030268)	Claim limitations from '268	Limitations claimed in 10/297,842 reference
16	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein derivatives.	Claim 21: An oral or dental care composition comprising nanoparticulate particles hydroxides, carbonates and phosphates for example, and a surface modifying agent which includes a protein such as casein or gelatine. This claim does not recite the specific particle size, but on page 4 of the specification, a diameter range from 1-200nm is supported.
17	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt	Claim 21: An oral or dental care composition comprising nanoparticulate particles hydroxides,

	in form of rod-like particles having a thickness of 2-50nm and a length of 10-150nm and a protein or protein derivatives.	carbonates and phosphates for example, and a surface modifying agent which includes a protein such as casein or gelatine. This claim does not recite the specific particle size, but on page 4 of the specification, a diameter range from 1-200nm is supported. The diameter is a function of the shape of the particle of for example hydroxyapatite which crystallizes into hexagonal rhombic prisms i.e. rod-like and thus a diameter of 1-200nm would correspond to a length within the range of 10-150nm (See S. Zhang and K.E. Gonsalves, J. Mater. Sci. Mater. Med. 8 (1997) 25.)
18	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a substance selected from collagen, gelatine, keratin casein etc.	Claim 21: An oral or dental care composition comprising nanoparticulate particles hydroxides, carbonates and phosphates for example, and a surface modifying agent which includes a protein such as casein or gelatine. This claim does not recite the specific particle size, but on page 4 of the specification, a diameter range from 1-200nm is supported.
19	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a substance selected from gelatine, keratin casein etc.	Claim 21: An oral or dental care composition comprising nanoparticulate particles hydroxides, carbonates and phosphates for example, and a surface modifying agent which includes a protein such as casein or gelatine. This claim does not recite the specific particle size, but on page 4 of the specification, a diameter range from 1-200nm is supported.
20	A calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein derivatives wherein the salt is encapsulated with one or more surface modifiers.	Claim 21: An oral or dental care composition comprising nanoparticulate particles hydroxides, carbonates and phosphates for example, and a surface modifying agent which includes a protein such as casein or gelatine. This claim does not recite the specific particle size, but on page 4 of the specification, a diameter range from 1-200nm is supported.
21	Hydroxylapatite or fluorapatite in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein derivatives.	Claim 21: An oral or dental care composition comprising nanoparticulate particles hydroxides, carbonates and phosphates which include for example, hydroxylapatite and fluorapatite, and a surface modifying agent which includes a protein such as casein or gelatine. This claim does not recite the specific particle

		size, but on page 4 of the specification, a diameter range from 1-200nm is supported.
22	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein derivatives wherein the protein or its derivative comprise 0.1 to 60% of the composite material.	Claim 21: An oral or dental care composition comprising nanoparticulate particles hydroxides, carbonates and phosphates for example, and a surface modifying agent which includes a protein such as casein or gelatine to the extent that the protein is present in an amount from 0.1 to 60%. This claim does not recite the specific particle size, but on page 4 of the specification, a diameter range from 1-200nm is supported.
28	A toothpaste comprising a phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein derivatives.	Claim 21: An oral or dental care composition, of which a toothpaste is, comprising nanoparticulate particles hydroxides, carbonates and phosphates for example, and a surface modifying agent which includes a protein such as casein or gelatine. This claim does not recite the specific particle size, but on page 4 of the specification, a diameter range from 1-200nm is supported.
30	A phosphate, fluoride or fluorophosphate calcium salt in form of 10-300nm diameter rod-like particles and a protein or protein derivatives wherein the protein or its derivative comprise 0.5 to 10% of the composite material.	Claim 21: An oral or dental care composition comprising nanoparticulate particles hydroxides, carbonates and phosphates for example, and a surface modifying agent which includes a protein such as casein or gelatine to the extent that the protein is present in an amount from 0.5 to 10%. This claim does not recite the specific particle size, but on page 4 of the specification, a diameter range from 1-200nm is supported.

Applicant's Traverse

The commentary at page 7 of Applicant's response filed 27 February 2006 is noted with regard to maintaining the obviousness double patenting rejection. Such statement is not persuasive of error of the obviousness double patenting rejection.

Conclusion

No claim is allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michel Graffeo whose telephone number is 571-272-8505. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am to 5:30pm Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Low can be reached on 571-272-0951. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

30 March 2006
MG

mg

Christopher S. F. Low
CHRISTOPHER S. F. LOW
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600